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Subject: Patent Application
Docket No: JA998-227
Serial No: 09/488,653

Comments: RCE and Amendment attached

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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 2, 1998.

See The American Inventor's Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 09/488,653 |
| Filing Date | January 20, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | J. Tanaka |
| Group Art Unit | 2134 |
| Examiner Name | Christopher Brown |
| Attorney Docket Number | JA998-237 |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (as PTO/SB/28) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice Final Rule, as Fed. Reg. 50002 (Aug. 18, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14885 (Mar. 20, 2000); 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(f) required)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0510
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)

Anne Vachon Dougherty

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

30374

Signature

Anne Vachon Dougherty

Date Sept. 20, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: fax to (703) 872-9306

Name (Print/Type)

Anne Vachon Dougherty

Date

Sept. 20, 2004

Signature

Anne Vachon Dougherty

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